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EXAMINER

WILDER, PETER C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2623

DATE MAILED: 07/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/930,441

Applicant(s)

LEE, SANG SUN

Examiner

Peter C. Wilder

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Original/Previously Presented: Claims 1-7 and 9-18.

Amended: Claim 8.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, regarding the addition of the references Schein and Lemmons see Pages 14 and 15, filed June 13, 2006, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1 and 11 under U.S.C 103(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1).

The applicant argues of on page 16 about the reference Waterhouse not being combinable because the reference "...relates to the communications traveling from the CPU to the TV in one direction only." The examiner stands by his rejection based on the fact that the addition of the reference is only to show the concept of placing a STB in a television to show one object can contain two different objects. The examiner also notes the two-way functionality is taught by the reference Bayrakeri.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 7, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1).

Referring to claim 1, Bayrakeri teaches a method for setting environment corresponding to a viewer's taste in a digital TV system including a TV connected with a server and a network (Column 2 lines 39-45 and Figure 1 teaches a network and a server and setting environments), the method comprising:

transmitting environmental information selected by the viewer to the server using an initial menu from the TV (Column 26 lines 30-36 teaches transmitting a selection command of a set of channels which the examiner views as a type of environmental

information to the headend from a STB; Column 25 lines 5-11 teaches customizing an IPG at the headend which would involve adjusting environmental settings of the IPG; Column 25 lines 16-23 along with Figure 3A teaches a menu screen to make changes of the IPG and Column 23 lines 53-56 teaches parts of the spotlight window are stored in the terminal; Figure 1 is a depiction of the headend and Column 4 lines 50-56 teaches the headend having a server element 122 in Figure 1); storing the environmental information into the server to correspond to the viewer's taste (Column 25 lines 7-8);

transmitting a download request of environmental information inputted by the viewer from the TV to the server (Column 25 lines 11-13 teaches transmitting a download request from the STT to the headend); transmitting the environmental information corresponding to the download request from the server to the TV (Column 25 lines 13-15);

and executing the environmental information downloaded to the TV (Column 25 lines 13-15 the examiner reads "executing" in the claim as the same as "processes" in the reference),

wherein the environmental information comprises information related to channel settings (Column 25 lines 46-47 teaches inclusion of a channel in an IPG);

but fails to teach environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings, environmental information adjustments related to screen color, and the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Lawler teaches environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings (Column 13 lines 18-23 teaches the head end storing a broadcast reservation setting which is a type of program guide data since a program guide is used to set up the reservation setting, and Figure 5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the environment modifying function/device of Bayrakeri using the program reservation function/device of Lawler for the purpose of notifying the recording device at the user end to record a program when its available (Column 2 lines 8-13, Lawler).

Bayrakeri and Lawler fail to disclose environmental information adjustments related to screen color settings and the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Etheredge teaches environmental information adjustments related to screen color settings (Column 10 lines 21-24).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine methods of Bayrakeri and Lawler using the color setting/environmental setting function/device of Etheredge for the purpose of making the grid visually more appealing to the viewers own preferences.

Bayrakeri, Lawler, and Etheredge fail to disclose the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Waterhouse teaches the method occurring inside a TV (Column 3 lines 6-7 teaches an addressable unit inside a television set, Column 22-24

teaches the receiver box which the examiner views to be another term for a set top box located inside a television).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the to modify the combine methods of Bayrakeri, Lawler, and Etheredge using the combined TV and set-top box function/device of Waterhouse for the purpose of not needing a separate supply voltage to power the microprocessor in the set top terminal (Column 4 lines 24-24, Waterhouse).

Referring to claim 7, corresponding to claim 1, Bayrakeri teaches wherein the downloaded environmental information is changed into the viewer's environments through an environment change program (Column 25 lines 13-15 teaches receiving and processing, and modifying the Custom-IPG; Column 19 lines 26-30 teaches programs running on the set-top box so the Custom-IPG would be changed using a program).

Referring to claim 11, Bayrakeri teaches digital TV system for setting a viewer's environments using a network, the system comprising:

a server for storing environmental information selected by the viewer (Column 25 lines 7-8 teaches storing the IPG at the head-end which would require a server to store it on and Figure 1 element 122 is an information server), the server providing the environmental information when the viewer requests download (Column 25 lines 11-13

teaches a download request being transmitted, so the server that is storing the IPG would have to provide the IPG when it is requested);

a network for connecting to the server (Figure 1 element 104 teaches a distribution network between the head-end and the set-top boxes and TVs); and

a controller for transmitting the environmental information to the server (Column 26 lines 24-27 teaches the set-top box as the controller and Column 26 lines 31-38 teaches sending up environmental information to the head end), the controller transmitting the download request to the server when the viewer requests download of the environmental information (Figure 1 teaches the information system element 100 which includes the head end element 102 is connected to the set-top box/controller element 106; Column 6 lines 54-58 teaches element 270 a controller inside the set-top box executing user interaction routines; the examiner views an IPG download request as a user interaction routine), the controller executing the environmental information downloaded from the server and changing the former environments into environments suitable for the viewer's taste (Column 25 lines 13-15 the examiner reads "executing" in the claim as the same as "processes" in the reference; Column 25 lines 13-15 teaches receiving and processing, and Modifying the Custom-IPG which would be of course to be to the viewers taste since its "custom"),

wherein the environmental information comprises information related to channel settings (Column 25 lines 46-47 teaches inclusion of a channel in an IPG);

but fails to teach wherein environmental information comprises information related to broadcast reservation settings and screen color settings; and the system occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Etheredge teaches environmental information adjustments related to screen color settings (Column 10 lines 21-24).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the environment modifying function/device of Bayrakeri using the color setting function/device of Etheredge for the purpose of making the grid visually more appealing to the viewers own preferences.

Bayrakeri and Etheredge fail to teach the system occurring inside a TV and environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings.

In an analogous art Waterhouse teaches the system occurring inside a TV (Column 3 lines 6-7 teaches an addressable unit inside a television set, Column 22-24 teaches the receiver box which the examiner views to be another term for a set top box located inside a television).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine systems of Bayrakeri and Etheredge using the combined TV and set-top box function/device of Waterhouse for the purpose of not needing a separate supply voltage to power the microprocessor in the set top terminal (Column 4 lines 24-24, Waterhouse).

Bayrakeri, Etheredge, and Waterhouse fail to teach environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings.

In an analogous art Lawler teaches environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings (Column 13 lines 18-23 teaches the head end storing a broadcast reservation setting which is a type of program guide data since a program guide is used to set up the reservation setting, and Figure 5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine systems of Bayrakeri, Etheredge, and Waterhouse using the program reservation function/device of Lawler for the purpose of notifying the recording device at the user end to record a program when its available (Column 2 lines 8-13, Lawler).

Referring to claim 12, Bayrakeri teaches the digital TV system according to claim 11, further comprising a memory for storing a menu for setting environments (Figure 2 elements 276-2 and 276-1 teaches memory in controller 270 which is inside the set-top box which is also considered the controller by the examiner; Column 6 lines 54-58 teaches the memory is used for dynamic overlays involving user interaction routines which customizing a IPG is considered), a program for executing the environmental information and the viewer's changed environments (Column 25 lines 13-15 teaches receiving and processing, and modifying the Custom-IPG; Figure 2 teaches element 270 which is a processor in a set-top terminal. A processor inherently requires a program running on it to display the IPG on the TV display and allow the viewer to make custom updates).

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1) further in view of Hendricks et al. (U.S. 5734853 B1) further in view of Donahue et al. (U.S. 6101180 B1).

Referring to claim 2, corresponding to claim 1, Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge teach all the limitations in claim 1, but fail to teach wherein the transmitting the environmental information from the TV to the server the environmental information further includes TV address, server address, ID number, and viewer selection environment information.

In an analogous art Hendricks teaches the step of transmitting the information from the TV to the server, the information includes TV address (Figure 4b element 924' Column 17 lines 54-55; and Column 18 lines 19-23), ID number (Figure 4b element 928'; Column 17 lines 58-60).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine methods of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge using the packet transmitting function/device of Hendricks for the purpose of allowing the headend to know which set top box sent the information.

Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, and Hendricks fail to teach transmitting the server address.

In an analogous art Donahue teaches transmitting the information from the TV to the server, the information includes the server address (Column 7 lines 6-10 teaches a data packet being transmitted in system Figure 2 that includes the server address).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine methods of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, and Hendricks using the source address included in the packet function/device of Donahue for the purpose of determining the next path to take based on the source and destination address (Column 7 lines 17-18, Donahue).

Referring to claim 3, corresponding to claim 1, Bayrakeri teaches wherein in the transmitting the download request of environmental information from the TV to the server the download request includes the download request code (Column 25 lines 11-13 teaches delivering an a custom-IPG and Column 25 lines 51-53 teaches upon receiving a viewer selection, a determination being made of the particular selection made so some type of code has to be sent in a request so the headend knows what to do),

Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge fail to teach the method according to claim 1, wherein in the step of transmitting the download request of environmental information from the TV to the server, the download request includes TV address, server address, ID number.

In an analogous art Hendricks teaches wherein in the step of transmitting the download request of environmental information from the TV to the server, the download request includes TV address (Figure 4b element 924' Column 17 lines 54-55; and Column 18 lines 19-23), ID number (Figure 4b element 928'; Column 17 lines 58-60).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine methods of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge using the packet transmitting function/device of Hendricks for the purpose of allowing the headend to know which set top box sent the information.

Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge and Hendricks fails to teach transmitting the server address and download request code.

In an analogous art Danahue teaches the download request of environmental information from the TV to the server, the environmental information includes the server address (Column 7 lines 6-10 teaches a data packet being transmitted in system Figure 2 that includes the server address), but fails to teach transmitting the download request code.

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine methods of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, and Hendricks using the source address included in the packet function/device of Donahue for the purpose of determining the next path to take based on the source and destination address (Column 7 lines 17-18 Donahue).

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1) in view of Hendricks et al. (U.S. 5734853 B1) further in view of Donahue et al. (U.S. 6101180 B1) further in view of LaRocca et al. (U.S. 6314572 B1).

Referring to claim 5, corresponding to claim 2, Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, Hendricks, and Donahue teach all the limitations in claim 2, but fail to teach the step of determining whether or not the viewer is registered based on the ID number included in the environmental information received from the TV.

In an analogous art LaRocca teaches determining whether or not the viewer is registered based on the ID number (Column 8 lines 64-67 and Column 9 lines 1-10 teaches a TID pin which is a set-top ID to determine if the subscriber has access which is the same as determining if a subscriber is registered).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined methods of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, Hendricks, and Donahue using the ID checking function/device of LaRocca for the purpose providing SOD or service on demand services (Column 9 lines 18-19 LaRocca).

Claims 4,14, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1) further in view of Wehmeyer et al. (U.S. 6169543 B1).

Referring to claim 4, Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge teach all the limitations in claim 1, but fail to teach the method further comprising the displaying the initial menu in response to the viewer's request of environment setting from the TV before the transmitting to the server.

In an analogous art Wehmeyer teaches the method further comprising the step of outputting the initial menu in response to the viewer's request of environment setting from the TV before the step of transmitting to the server (Column 11 lines 32-37; Column 7 lines 61 –67 and Column 8 lines 1-3 teaches the EPG data being stored in memory and generated from memory, so no transmission to the server would be required to generate the initial menu).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify combine methods of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge using the menu display before transmission function/device of Wehmeyer for the purpose of being able to customize a program guide with the first step in the method comprising storing program guide information into an electronic host device (Column 2 lines 50-53 Wehmeyer).

Referring to claim 14, Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge teach all the limitations in claim 11, but fail to teach the digital TV system according to claim 11, wherein the controller reads the initial menu from the memory for allowing the viewer to select the environmental information and provides onto a screen.

In an analogous art Wehmeyer teaches wherein the controller reads the initial menu from the memory for allowing the viewer to select the environmental information and provides onto a screen (Column 11 lines 7-10 and Column 11 lines 29-37 teaches storing and displaying the EPG).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine systems of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge using the menu display before transmission function/device of Wehmeyer for the purpose of being able to customize a program guide with the first step in the method comprising storing program guide information into an electronic host device (Column 2 lines 50-53 Wehmeyer).

Referring to claim 16, Bayrakeri teaches a digital TV device connected with a server and a network (Figure 1 and Figure 2 and Column 5 lines 46-48 teaches a display; Column 5 lines 26-29 teaches MPEG which is digital), the digital TV device comprising:

input means for inputting a viewer's environmental information (Column 6 lines 49-54 teaches a remote control unit and Column 26 lines 24-25);

display means for providing the viewer with initial menu for selecting the environmental information (Column 5 lines 46-48 teaches display means; Column 25 lines 16-19 teaches initially displaying the IPG);

network connecting means for transmitting the environmental information to the server through the network and downloading the environmental information from the server (Figure 1 element 104 is distribution network and Column 26 lines 30 – 41 teaches receiving an updated copy of a custom-IPG thus transferring information from one source to another which is downloading); and

controlling means for executing the environment change program (Column 25 lines 13-14 teaches receiving and processing the Custom-IPG the examiner viewing processing the same as executing) and changing former environments into the viewer's environments if the environmental information is received from the network connecting means through the network (Column 25 lines 1-9 teaches making modifications to the custom-IPG and having the modifications take place at the head-end so the information is input from the network; the network is element 104 in Figure 1),

wherein the environmental information comprises information related to channel settings (Column 25 lines 46-47 teaches inclusion of a channel in an IPG);

but fails to teach storing means for storing the initial menu, environment change program and changed environmental information, environmental information

adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings and environmental information adjustments related to screen color, and the device occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Etheredge teaches environmental information adjustments related to screen color settings (Column 10 lines 21-24).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the environment modifying the combine devices of Bayrakeri and Etheredge using the color setting function/device of Etheredge for the purpose of making the grid visually more appealing to the viewers own preferences.

Bayrakeri and Etheredge fail to teach the device occurring inside a TV; environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings; storing means for storing the initial menu, environment change program and changed environmental information.

In an analogous art Waterhouse teaches the device occurring inside a TV (Column 3 lines 6-7 teaches an addressable unit inside a television set, Column 22-24 teaches the receiver box which the examiner views to be another term for a set top box located inside a television).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the environment modifying function/device of Bayrakeri using the combined TV and set-top box function/device of Waterhouse for the purpose of not needing a separate supply voltage to power the microprocessor in the set top terminal (Column 4 lines 24-24, Waterhouse).

Bayrakeri, Etheredge, and Waterhouse fail to teach environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings; storing means for storing the initial menu, environment change program and changed environmental information.

In an analogous art Lawler teaches environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings (Column 13 lines 18-23 teaches the head end storing a broadcast reservation setting which is a type of program guide data since a program guide is used to set up the reservation setting, and Figure 5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine devices of Bayrakeri, Etheredge, and Waterhouse using the program reservation function/device of Lawler for the purpose of notifying the recording device at the user end to record a program when its available (Column 2 lines 8-13, Lawler).

Bayrakeri, Etheredge, Waterhouse, and Lawler fail to teach storing means for storing the initial menu, environment change program and changed environmental information.

In an analogous art Wehmeyer teaches storing means for storing the initial menu (Column 5 lines 57-66 teaches storing capabilities for the EPG data and graphics; Column 13 lines 2-10 teaches the menu being an initial menu), environment change program (Column 8 lines 1-3 teaches software control program which is viewed as being the same as environment change program by the examiner) and changed environmental information (Column 14 lines 16-25 teaches saving the modified EPG).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combine devices of Bayrakeri, Etheredge, Waterhouse, and Lawler using the menu stored in memory for display function/device of Wehmeyer for the purpose of being able to customize a program guide with the first step in the method comprising storing program guide information into an electronic host device (Column 2 lines 50-53 Wehmeyer).

Referring to claim 17, corresponding to claim 16, Bayrakeri teaches receives the environmental information from the input means and controls to output the same to the network connecting means (Column 25 lines 44-47 teaches the user inputting a selection for a channel to be included in the IPG and Column 26 lines 24-27 teaches an input means by pressing buttons and sending the signals to the head end which requires them to go over a network).

In an analogous art Wehmeyer teaches for the same motivation as in claim 16, the device wherein the controlling means reads the initial menu from the memory and outputs the same to the display (Column 5 lines 57-66 teaches displaying an EPG from memory, the memory being in element 1160 in Figure 1, Column 13 lines 2-10 teaches the menu being an initial menu)

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1) in view of Hendricks et al. (U.S. 5734853 B1) further in view of Donahue et al. (U.S. 6101180 B1) further in view of Dunn et al. (U.S. 5861906 B1).

Referring to claim 6, Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, Hendricks, and Donahue teach all the limitations in claim 3, but fail to teach the method according to claim 1, wherein the transmitting the environmental information from the server to the TV includes: determining whether or not the viewer is registered based on the ID number included in the download request received from the TV (see rejection of claim 5); and inquiring whether or not there is environmental information corresponding to the ID number.

In an analogous art Dunn teaches inquiring whether or not there is environmental information corresponding to the ID number (Column 8 lines 24-33 teaches checking the database at the headend to see if a viewers ID corresponds to Program IDs; the examiner views the program IDs as being related to IPG information).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined method of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, Hendricks, and Donahue using the customer ID verification and data lookup function/device of Dunn for the purpose of allowing when the headend receives the viewer ID from the user interface unit, the headend can easily and quickly

searched to find all program IDs that correlate to the viewer ID (Column 8 lines 56-58 Dunn).

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1) further in view of Dunn et al. (U.S. 5861906 B1).

Referring to claim 9, corresponding to claim 1, Bayrakeri teaches further comprising transmitting the environmental information selected by the viewer using the initial menu before the transmitting the download request of environmental information to the server (Column 26 lines 30-36 teaches transmitting selection of a set of channels which the examiner views as environmental information to the headend; Column 25 lines 16-23 along with Figure 3A teaches a menu screen to make changes of the IPG; Figure 1 is a depiction of the headend and Column 4 lines 50-56 teach the headend having a server),

but Bayrakeri, Lawler, Etheredge, and Waterhouse fail to teach wherein the environmental information is stored in the server corresponding to the viewer's ID number.

In an analogous art Dunn teaches wherein the information is stored in the server corresponding to the viewer's ID number (Column 6 lines 64-67 and Column 7 lines 1-4

teaches a user using an EPG; Column 8 lines 24-33 along with Figure 6 teaches how at the head-end the programs in a user's customized list which are related to the EPG are identified by a users ID number).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined methods of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Etheredge, and Waterhouse using the customer ID data lookup function/device of Dunn for the purpose of allowing when the headend receives the viewer ID from the user interface unit the headend can easily and quickly searched to find all program Ids that correlate to the viewer ID (Column 8 lines 56-58 Dunn).

Claims 8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Dunn et al. (U.S. 5861906 B1) further in view Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1).

Referring to claim 8, Bayrakeri teaches a method for controlling a viewer's environment setting in a TV connected with a server and a network, the method comprising: outputting an initial menu in response to a viewer's request of environment setting (Column 24 lines 66-67 and Column 25 line 1 and Figure 1 teach modifying a IPG initially by the viewer); transmitting a download request of environmental information inputted by the viewer to the server based on the initial menu (Column 25

lines 7-11 teaches storing the IPG at the head end and then sending a request for data by each change made in the IPG); receiving environmental information corresponding to the download request from the server (Column 25 lines 13-14 teaches receiving the IPG); and changing former environments into environments suitable for the viewer's taste based on the downloaded environmental information (Column 25 lines 13-14 teaches processing and displaying the custom-IPG), wherein the environmental information comprises information related the channel settings (Column 25 lines 46-47 teaches inclusion of a channel in an IPG);

but fails to teach wherein the environmental information is inquired from the server based on an ID number of the viewer, environmental information comprises information related to broadcast reservation settings and screen color settings, and the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Dunn teaches wherein the information is inquired from the server based on an ID number of the viewer (Column 6 lines 64-67 and Column 7 lines 1-4 teaches a user using an EPG; Column 8 lines 24-33 along with Figure 6 teaches how at the head-end the programs in a user's customized list which are related to the EPG are identified by a users ID number).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the environment modifying function/device of Bayrakeri using the customer ID data lookup function/device of Dunn for the purpose of allowing when the headend receives the viewer ID from the user interface unit the headend can

easily and quickly searched to find all program ids that correlate to the viewer ID (Column 8 lines 56-58 Dunn).

Bayrakeri and Dunn fail to teach environmental information comprises information related to broadcast reservation settings and screen color settings, and the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Lawler teaches environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings (Column 13 lines 18-23 teaches the head end storing a broadcast reservation setting which is a type of program guide data since a program guide is used to set up the reservation setting, and Figure 5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined methods of Bayrakeri and Dunn using using the program reservation function/device of Lawler for the purpose of notifying the recording device at the user end to record a program when its available (Column 2 lines 8-13, Lawler).

Bayrakeri Dunn, and Lawler fail to teach environmental information comprises information related to broadcast reservation settings, and the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Etheredge teaches environmental information adjustments related to screen color settings (Column 10 lines 21-24).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined methods of Bayrakeri Dunn, Lawler using the

color setting function/device of Etheredge for the purpose of making the grid visually more appealing to the viewers own preferences.

Bayrakeri Dunn, Lawler, and Etheredge fail to teach the TV includes all the mehtod occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Waterhouse teaches the method occurring inside a TV (Column 3 lines 6-7 teaches an addressable unit inside a television set, Column 22-24 teaches the receiver box which the examiner views to be another term for a set top box located inside a television).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined methods of Bayrakeri Dunn, Lawler, and Etheredge using the combined TV and set-top box function/device of Waterhouse for the purpose of not needing a separate supply voltage to power the microprocessor (Column 4 lines 24-24, Waterhouse).

Referring to claim 10, Bayrakeri teaches a method for providing a viewer's environments from a server connected with a TV and a network to the TV, the method comprising: receiving environmental information selected by the viewer (Column 25 lines 7-8);

receiving a download request of environmental information inputted by the viewer from the TV (Column 25 lines 11-13);

wherein the environmental information comprises information related t the channel settings (Column 25 lines 46-47 teaches inclusion of a channel in an IPG);

but fails to teach storing the environmental information corresponding to an ID number of the viewer; inquiring whether or not there is the viewer's environmental information based on the ID number included in the download request; reading the environmental information corresponding to the ID number when the viewer's environmental information is inquired and transmitting the read environmental information to the TV; wherein environmental information comprises information related to broadcast reservation settings and screen color settings, and the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Dunn teaches storing the information corresponding to an ID number of the viewer (Column 6 lines 64-67 and Column 7 lines 1-4 teaches a user using an EPG; Column 8 lines 24-33 along with Figure 6 teaches how at the head-end the programs in a user's customized list which are related to the EPG are identified by a users ID number);

inquiring whether or not there is the viewer's information based on the ID number included in the download request (Column 13 lines 4-11); reading the information corresponding to the ID number when the viewer's information is inquired (Column 13 lines 15-17 teaches the programs records are transmitted that correspond to the ID number so the programs records are read); and transmitting the read environmental information to the TV (Column 13 lines 15-21).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the environment modifying function/device of Bayrakeri

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using the customer ID data lookup function/device of Dunn for the purpose of allowing when the headend receives the viewer ID from the user interface unit the headend can easily and quickly searched to find all program IDs that correlate to the viewer ID (Column 8 lines 56-58 Dunn).

Bayrakeri and Dunn fail to teach wherein environmental information comprises information related to broadcast reservation settings and screen color settings, and the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Lawler teaches environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings (Column 16 lines 34-37 teaches setting reminders in to record or retrieve videos which is a type of broadcast reservation setting).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined methods of Bayrakeri and Dunn using the program reservation function/device of Lawler for the purpose of notifying the recording device at the user end to record a program when its available (Column 2 lines 8-13, Lawler).

Bayrakeri, Dunn, and Lawler fail to teach environmental information comprises information related screen color settings, and the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Etheredge teaches environmental information adjustments related to screen color settings (Column 10 lines 21-24).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined methods of Bayrakeri Dunn, and Lawler

using the color setting function/device of Etheredge for the purpose of making the grid visually more appealing to the viewers own preferences.

Bayrakeri, Dunn, Lawler, and Etheredge fail to teach the method occurring inside a TV.

In an analogous art Waterhouse teaches the method occurring inside a TV (Column 3 lines 6-7 teaches an addressable unit inside a television set, Column 22-24 teaches the receiver box which the examiner views to be another term for a set top box located inside a television).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined methods of Bayrakeri, Dunn, Lawler, and Etheredge using the combined TV and set-top box function/device of Waterhouse for the purpose of not needing a separate supply voltage to power the microprocessor (Column 4 lines 24-24, Waterhouse).

Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1) in view of Hendricks et al. (U.S. 5861906 B1).

Referring to claim 13, Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, teach all the limitations in claim 12, but fail to teach wherein the memory includes at least one of an EEPROM, a flash ROM.

In an analogous art Hendricks teaches wherein the memory includes at least one of an EEPROM, and a flash ROM (Column 17 lines 14-17).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined system of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge using the memory function/device of Hendricks for the purpose providing the desired flexibility in the menu format while still limiting the amount of information needed to be communicated via the program control information signal (Column 17 lines 17-20 Hendricks)

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372) further in view of Waterhouse et al. (U.S. 5831663 B1) further view of Dunn et al. (U.S. 5861906 B1) further in view of LaRocca et al. (U.S. 6314572 B1).

Referring to claim 15, Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge teach all the limitations in claim 11, but fail to teach the digital TV system wherein the server includes: a viewer confirmation part for confirming whether or not the viewer is

registered; a viewer request determining part for determining the request received from the controller if the viewer is registered; a database inquiry part for inquiring the viewer's environmental information based on the ID number if the request is the download request of environmental information; and a database for storing the environmental information selected by the viewer to correspond to the ID number.

In an analogous art LaRocca teaches a viewer confirmation part for confirming whether or not the viewer is registered (Column 8 lines 64-67 and Column 9 lines 1-10 teaches a TID pin which is a set-top ID to determine if the subscriber has access which is the same as determining if a subscriber is registered), a viewer request determining part for determining the request received from the controller if the viewer is registered (Column 10 lines 36-40 teaches the subscriber terminal sending IPG related data to the video session manager, element 122 in Figure 1; Server element 125 in element 122 then sends back down an IPG related packet of information to the user terminal, thus the session manager had to determine the category request from the subscriber in order to send the correct category packet to the subscriber, so the session manager has a request determining part).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined systems of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, and Etheredge using the viewer confirmation and request function/device of LaRocca for the purpose of providing SOD or service on demand services (Column 9 lines 18-19 LaRocca).

Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, and LaRocca fail to teach a database inquiry part for inquiring the viewer's environmental information based on the ID number if the request is the download request of environmental information; and a database for storing the environmental information selected by the viewer to correspond to the ID number.

In an analogous art Dunn teaches database inquiry part for inquiring the viewer's information based on the ID number if the request is the download request of information (Column 7 lines 56-66 teaches download IPG related information based on the user ID number); and a database for storing the environmental information selected by the viewer to correspond to the ID number (Column 8 lines 24-33 teaches checking the database at the headend to see if a viewers ID corresponds to Program IDs; the examiner views the program IDs as being related to IPG information).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the combined systems of Bayrakeri, Lawler, Waterhouse, Etheredge, and LaRocca using the database inquiring and storage based on viewers ID number function/device of Dunn purpose of allowing when the headend receives the viewer ID from the user interface unit the headend can easily and quickly searched to find all program IDs that correlate to the viewer ID (Column 8 lines 56-58 Dunn).

Claims 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bayrakeri et al. (U.S. 6904610 B1) in view of Lawler et al. (U.S. 5805763) further in view of Dunn et al. (U.S. 5861906 B1) further in view of Etheredge (U.S. 6018372).

Referring to claim 18, Bayrakeri teaches a server system comprising: a memory for storing a program (Figure 1 element 122 teaches an information server which is considered a computer which would have to have a program running on it to operate);

a processor connected to the memory the program when executed causing the processor to perform (A server/computer element 122 in Figure 1 requires a processor to operate and a processor requires a program to operate and a program has to be stored in memory so the processor inherently requires so type of connection to some type of memory):

receiving environmental information selected by a viewer (Column 26 lines 30-36 teaches sending up custom-IPG related data to the head-end which Figure 1 shows the data would have to go through element 120 to enter the head-end);

storing the environmental information (Column 25 lines 7-8 teaches the custom-IPG is stored at the headend to the environmental information would have to be stored at the headend)

receiving a download request of environmental information inputted by the viewer (Column 25 lines 11-13 teaches delivering the custom IPG to the user upon request);

teaches a processor using a program to transmit the read environmental information to a TV (Column 25 lines 11-15 teaches delivering the custom-IPG to a set-top-box and displaying the EPG; Column 5 lines 45-48, Column 6 line 30 and Figure 2 teaches element 272 a microprocessor which inherently requires programming to operate);

wherein the environmental information comprises information related the channel settings (Column 25 lines 46-47 teaches inclusion of a channel in an IPG);

but fails to teach a memory for storing a database, storing the environmental information corresponding to the viewer's ID number; inquiring whether or not there is the viewer's environmental information based on the ID number included in the download request; and reading the environmental information corresponding to the ID number if the viewer's environmental information is inquired; wherein environmental information comprises information related to broadcast reservation settings and screen color settings.

In an analogous art Dunn teaches a memory for storing a database (Column 5 lines 36-39 teaches a database in the headend) storing information corresponding to the viewer's ID number (Column 8 lines 24-33 teaches checking the database at the headend to see if a viewers ID corresponds to Program IDs; the examiner views the program IDs as being related to IPG information and for the rest of the processor

limitations Figure 1 element 44 teaches a server which inherently needs a program operating on it to function);

a processor using a program to inquire whether or not there is the viewer's information based on the ID number included in the download request (Column 13 lines 4-11 teaches locating records that correspond to the ID number);

a processor using a program to read the information corresponding to the ID number if the viewer's information is inquired (Column 8 lines 56-61 teaches finding programs that related to the viewer ID and Figure 1 element 44 teaches a server which inherently needs a program operating on it to function).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the environment modifying function/device of Bayrakeri using the processor performing by use of a program the storing, inquiring, and reading by use of the users ID number function/device of Dunn for the purpose of allowing when the headend receives the viewer ID from the user interface unit the headend can easily and quickly searched to find all program IDs that correlate to the viewer ID (Column 8 lines 56-58 Dunn).

Bayrakeri and Dunn fail to teach storing environmental information comprises information related to broadcast reservation settings and screen color settings.

In an analogous art Lawler teaches environmental information adjustments related to broadcast reservation settings (Column 13 lines 18-23 teaches the head end storing a broadcast reservation setting which is a type of program guide data since a program guide is used to set up the reservation setting, and Figure 5).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined system of Bayrakeri and Dunn using the program reservation function/device of Lawler for the purpose of notifying the recording device at the user end to record a program when its available (Column 2 lines 8-13, Lawler).

Bayrakeri, Dunn, and Lawler fail to teach environmental information adjustments related to screen color settings.

In an analogous art Etheredge teaches environmental information adjustments related to screen color settings (Column 10 lines 21-24).

At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the combined system of Bayrakeri, Dunn, and Lawler using the color setting function/device of Etheredge for the purpose of making the grid visually more appealing to the viewers own preferences.


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter C. Wilder whose telephone number is 571-272-2826. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM - 4PM Monday - Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Grant can be reached on (571)272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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